

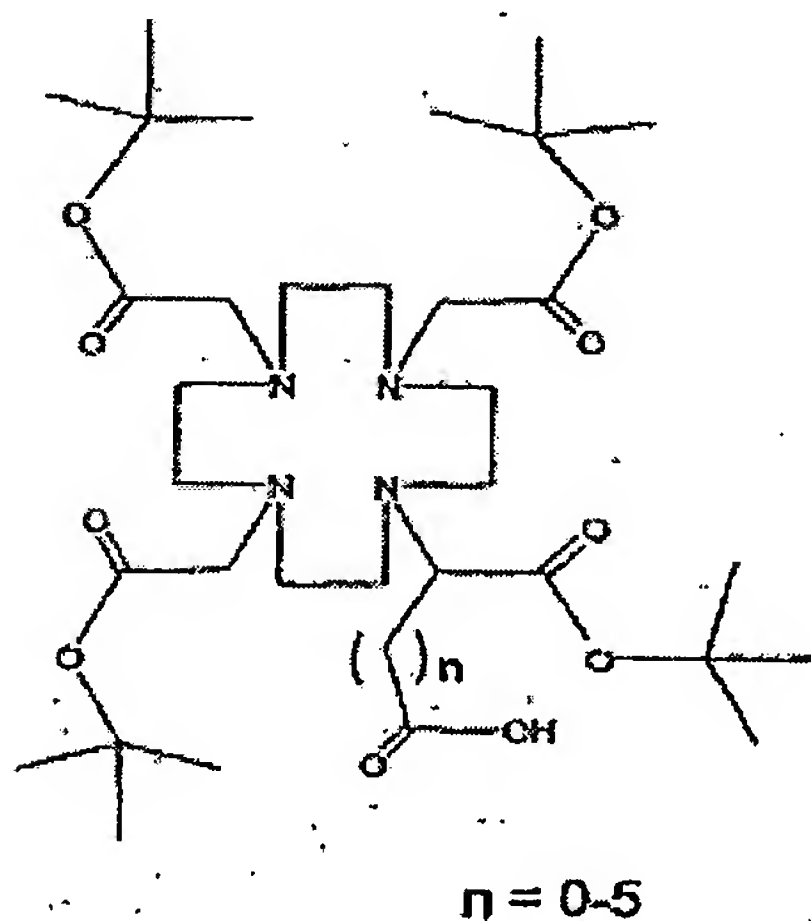
Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 10 and 12 to 14 and add claims 15 to 18 as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

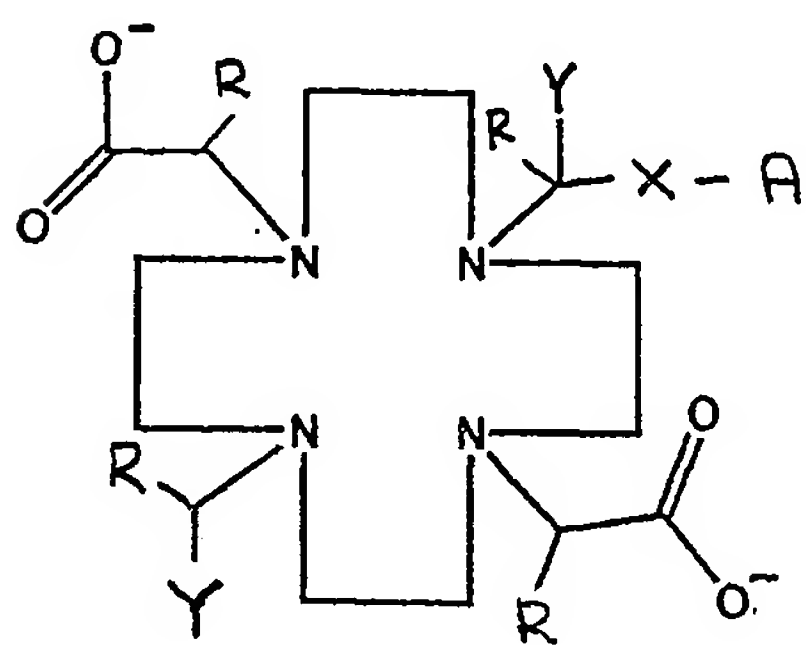
1. (Original) Polyazamacrocyclic compounds for radiometal labeling, comprising an N_n system, wherein n is 4, 5 or 6, with varying ring size, and wherein at least one of the N atoms is substituted with a free carboxylate group for coupling to an amino function in a bioactive effector molecule, while all N atoms carry a protected sidechain.
2. (Original) Compound as claimed in claim 1 having the general formula:



3. (Currently Amended) Compound as claimed in claim 1 or 2, which compound is 1- (1-carboxy-3-carbotertbutoxypropyl)- 4,7,10 (carbotertbutoxymethyl)-1,4,7,10-

tetraazacyclododecane (DOTAGA (tBu) 4).

4. (Original) Chelating compounds for labeling bioactive molecules with a radiometal, having the general formula:



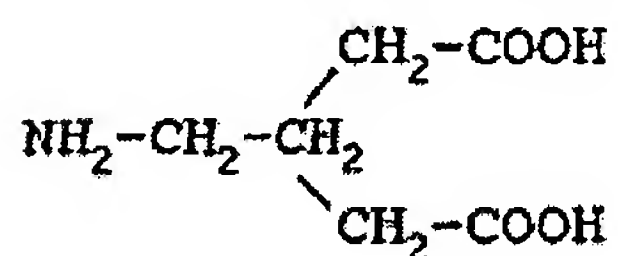
in which:

both Y groups may be positioned either trans as shown or cis;

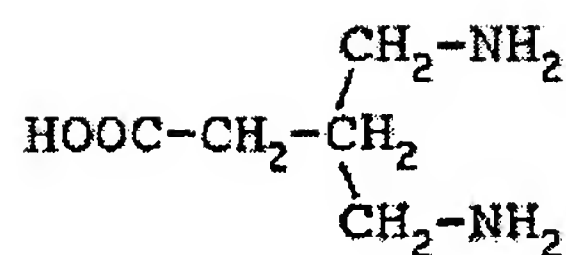
A is an effector molecule, such as a peptide, in particular octreotide, CCK, substance P, gastrin, a protein, in particular an antibody or enzyme, sugars or radiosensitizing agents, like doxorubicin;

R is a hydrogen, a C₁-C₃ alkyl or a alcohol;

X is a spacer, in particular (CH₂)_n -X', in which n is 1-10 and X' is COOH, NH₂, SH, OH or O-halogen, in which halogen is in particular Br, I or Cl or a molecule of the formula



or of the formula



Y is COO^- , CH_2CONH_2 , $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, optionally complexed with a radiometal.

5. (Currently Amended) Compounds as claimed in claim 4, wherein R is hydrogen, n is 1, X' is COOH , and Y is COO^- ~~and A is as defined in claim 3.~~

6. (Original) Compound as claimed in claim 5, wherein R is hydrogen, n is 1, X' is COOH , Y is COO^- and A is octreotide or octreotate.

7. (Currently Amended) Compound as claimed in claim 4, wherein R is COOH , n is 1, X' is COOH , and Y is COO^- ~~and A is as defined in claim 3.~~

8. (Original) Compound as claimed in claim 7, wherein R is COOH , n is 1, X' is COOH , Y is COO^- and A is octreotide or octreotate.

9. (Currently Amended) Compounds as claimed in claim 4, selected from the group consisting of $\text{DOTA}^3\text{tyr}^3\text{octreotide}$, $\text{DOTA}^3\text{tyr}^3\text{octreotate}$, $\text{DOTA}^3\text{tyr}^3\text{octreotide}$, $\text{DOTA}^3\text{tyr}^3\text{octreotate}$, $\text{DOTA}^3\text{tyr}^3\text{octreotide}$, and $\text{DOTA}^3\text{tyr}^3\text{octreotate}$.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) Method for ~~the preparation of~~ preparing radiometal labeled bioactive molecules, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

a) synthesizing compounds as claimed in ~~claims 1-3~~ claim 1 having protected side chains on the N atoms and a free carboxylate group;

- b) coupling a bioactive molecule to the free carboxylate group;
- c) deprotecting the protected side chains; and
- d) labeling the a chelator structure thus obtained with a desired radiometal.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (New) Method for diagnosing a disease comprising:

labeling the chelating compound of claim 4 with a radiometal to produce a labeled chelating compound; and

diagnosing a disease with said labeled chelating compound.

16. (New) A diagnostic or therapeutic composition comprising the chelating compound of claim 4.

17. (New) A method for preparing the diagnostic or therapeutic composition of claim 16 comprising

providing said chelating compound; and

reacting said chelating compound with a radiometal.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein said radiometal is ⁹⁰Y.